Leader: 1 Surely God is good to Israel,

*Even* to such as are pure in heart.

Response: **2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone;**

**My steps had well nigh slipped.**

Leader: 3 For I was envious at the arrogant,

When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Response: **4 For there are no pangs in their death;**

**But their strength is firm.**

Leader: 5 They are not in trouble as *other* men;

Neither are they plagued like *other* men.

Response: **6 Therefore pride is as a chain about their neck;**

**Violence covereth them as a garment.**

Leader: 7 Their eyes stand out with fatness:

They have more than heart could wish.

Response: **8 They scoff, and in wickedness utter oppression:**

**They speak loftily.**

Leader: 9 They have set their mouth in the heavens,

And their tongue walketh through the earth.

Response: **10 Therefore His people return hither:**

**And waters of a full *cup* are drained by them.**

Leader: 11 And they say, How doth God know?

And is there knowledge in the Most High?

Response: **12 Behold, these are the wicked;**

**And, being alway at ease, they increase in riches.**

Leader: 13 Surely in vain have I cleansed my heart,

And washed my hands in innocency;

Response: **14 For all the day long have I been plagued,**

**And chastened every morning.**

Leader: 15 If I had said, I will speak thus;

Behold, I had dealt treacherously with the generation of Thy children.

Response: **16 When I thought how I might know this,**

**It was too painful for me;**

Leader: 17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God,

And considered their latter end.

Response: **18 Surely Thou settest them in slippery places:**

**Thou castest them down to destruction.**

Leader: 19 How are they become a desolation in a moment!

They are utterly consumed with terrors.

Response: **20 As a dream when one awaketh,**

**So, O Lord, when Thou awakest, Thou wilt despise their image.**

Leader: 21 For my soul was grieved,

And I was pricked in my heart:

Response: **22 So brutish was I, and ignorant;**

**I was *as* a beast before Thee.**

Leader: 23 Nevertheless I am continually with Thee:

Thou hast holden my right hand.

Response: **24 Thou wilt guide me with Thy counsel,**

**And afterward receive me to glory**

Leader: 25 Whom have I in heaven *but Thee*?

And there is none upon earth that I desire besides Thee.

Response: **26 My flesh and my heart faileth;**

***But* God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.**

Leader: 27 For, lo, they that are far from Thee shall perish:

Thou hast destroyed all them that play the harlot, *departing* from Thee.

Response: **28 But it is good for me to draw near unto God:**

**I have made the Lord Jehovah my refuge,**

**That I may tell of all Thy works.**